N 765(c)

FM. 2
G. 850-4-41

cfp.

SECRET

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. BR. REGISTRY
No. N. 765 (C)
Date 8/4/41

REPORT

S.1, Special Branch. ~~Station~~ File No. ..... Date April 7, 1941.

SUBJECT: Mrs. Evelyn Oleaga, History.

Mrs. Evelyn Oleaga was born of British parents now believed to reside in British Columbia.

She was married to a Mr. G.J. Burkhardt, Swiss, who committed suicide on November 28, 1933, by shooting himself with a pistol, in his apartment in the Glen Line Building, 2 Peking Road, at the age of 54 years.

The late G.J. Burkhardt was a partner in the now defunct firm of Burkhardt, Buchan & Co., which firm was the successor to L.R. Burkhardt & Co., changing its name in 1920 when R.S. Buchan joined it. In 1926 the firm was known to be closely connected with the local branch of the Soviet concern "EXPORTHLEB", and was also known to have been financed by funds from Moscow; in order to enable business to be conducted through the medium of a British firm when it was not convenient for a Soviet concern to act directly.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
8 1941
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
SPECIAL BRANCH

Subsequent to the death of Burkhardt, the firm was reorganized under the title of Burkhardt, Buchan & Co. (1934) Ltd. and continued business under this name until the summer of 1936, when it went into liquidation, the directors owing money widely in Shanghai.

Evelyn Oleaga is the sister of R.S. (Reginald Stuart) Buchan and William Muir Buchan, the latter having been employed in the Shanghai Fire Brigade from 1927 to 1932, and in 1934 joining the firm of Burkhardt, Buchan & Co. as a partner. Both brothers,

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

.....Station. File No..... Date.....

SUBJECT: (2)

together with a sister, Doreen, who was also a director of the Company and their mother, Mrs. H.Buchan resided at 27 The Bund, during 1933 - 1935, occupying three rooms in that part of the building, housing the offices of Mr. B.A. MacDonald, Canadian Government Trade Commissioner for China. The rooms occupied by the Buchan family, constituted the only private apartment in a building used exclusively by business offices of various firms. It is reported that the contiguity of the Trade Commissioner's offices was taken advantage of by friends of the family, including Soviet employees and agents, who used the place as a rendezvous.

Reginald Stuart Buchan was married to the daughter of a former Cuban Minister in Shanghai but later he and his wife separated.

Following the death of Burkhardt, his wife went to Manila where she married a Spaniard of the name of Francisco (Paco) Oleaga. This man was, for some years, a trusted employee of the Manila branch of Elizalde & Co. Inc., but just prior to, or shortly subsequent to, his marriage to Evelyn Burkhardt, left the firm, and it later came to light that bonds to the value of 40,000 pesos could not be accounted for. It is not known whether the company took any action against Oleaga in this connection. It is believed that Oleaga now follows no regular profession.

In July 1940 Mrs. Evelyn Burkhardt was cohabiting with Hilaire du Berrier, U.S.A. citizen of French descent. Du Berrier is a very questionable character

FM. 2
G. 850.1-41

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

Station. File No. Date

SUBJECT: (3)

and was an aviator on the side of the Nationalist Forces during the Spanish Civil War and also took part in the Italo-Abyssinian conflict as a bomber and reconnaisance pilot. He also endeavoured to obtain similar employment with the Chinese Central Government Forces but whether or not he was successful is somewhat doubtful.

In July 1940 du Berrier called on Mr. Hugh Middleton and offered his services to the British Forces but was not accepted. He has also worked as an agent for the Japanese Intelligence Service.

To date of this report very little information has been gathered regarding the daughter of Mrs. Oleaga.

She was, until recently, known locally as Viki Burkhardt and is known to be an associate of "Princess" Rajkumari Sumair Ajit Singh (Patiala).

About two months ago she returned from Hongkong and has since styled herself Countess Victoria Lea. Nothing definite regarding her right to such title is known, but it is generally considered that the title is fictitious.

Mrs. Oleaga is presently reported to be closely associating herself with an Italian "Commander".

D. S. I.

A.C. (Special Branch)

S. B.

O. A. 5

C. of S.

requires the

information

Please show